

Amherst Massachusetts
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION & BICYCLE COMMITTEE
March 2010

Appointing authority: SB
Type: Committee
Town bylaw: no
Number of voting members: 9
Member appointment: 3 yrs
Non-voting liaison:

Voting members to include (where possible):
One member to represent the perspective of handicapped citizens and two members to represent the town's cyclists. Otherwise a spread of geographical areas in town is desirable.

Committee charge summary

The Committee advises the Select Board and the Town Meeting on policy concerning transportation, pedestrian and bicycle issues. Its explicit purposes include:

- 1) reviewing all proposals concerning public transportation safety,
- 2) advising the Select Board and the town's representative to the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority,
- 3) reporting to Town Meeting on any article that concerns public transportation,
- 4) reviewing Town bylaws and other laws that affect bicycling and making recommendations regarding these laws and their enforcement,
- 5) fostering public awareness of the rules for safe bicycling,
- 6) reviewing plans for subdivision or development of land, and construction or reconstruction of sidewalks, roads, and intersections within the Town,
- 7) advocating and promoting alternatives to private automobile ownership and use,
- 8) recommending designation and development of commuter and recreational routes for bicycle and for pedestrians, as well as parking facilities for bicycles within the town,
- 9) advising on transportation safety and accessibility for persons with disabilities.

This Committee was established by vote of the Annual Town Meeting of April 1995. (The initial Public Transportation Committee was established by a vote of the 1975 Annual Town Meeting.)

**Town of Amherst Committee Charge
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION & BICYCLE COMMITTEE**

Appointing authority: SB
Type: Committee
Town bylaw: no
Number of voting members: 9
Member appointment: 2 yrs.
Non-voting liaisons:

Voting members to include (where possible): One member to represent the perspective of handicapped citizens and two members to represent the town's cyclists. Otherwise, a spread of geographical areas in town is desirable.

Committee charge summary:

- 1) The committee gives advice to the Select Board and to Town Meeting on policy concerning public transportation. Its explicit purposes include:
- 2) reviewing all proposals concerning public transportation safety,
- 3) advising the Select Board and the town's representative on the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority,
- 4) reporting to Town Meeting on any article that concerns public transportation,
- 5) conducting specific studies concerning public transportation.

The committee will also maintain a permanent sub-committee concerning bicycling. The sub-committee purposes include:

- 1) fostering of public awareness of the rules for safe bicycling,
- 2) reviewing town bylaws and other laws that affect bicycling and making recommendations regarding these laws and their enforcement,
- 3) recommending the designation and development of commuter and recreational routes and parking facilities for bicycling within the town,
- 4) reviewing plans for the subdivisions or development of land, and the construction or reconstruction of sidewalks, roads, and intersections within the town.

This committee was established by a vote of the Annual Town Meeting of April, 1995. (The initial Public Transportation Committee was established by a vote of the 1975 Annual Town Meeting.)

On June 15, 1998, the Select Board voted to designate board and committee members as "special municipal employees" under the terms and conditions of G.L. c. 268A.

Amended FY96 Annual Town Meeting (April, 1995); a:\pubtrans.chg

**Proposed Changes to the Charge of the Public Transportation and Bicycle Committee
March 2010**

The proposed changes bring the charge into conformity with current practice and add one new explicit purpose.

Summary of proposed changes:

- Term of appointment changed from 2 to 3 years
- Deleted reference to non-existent bicycle subcommittee
- Expanded the range of advisory activity explicitly to pedestrian and bicycle issues.
- Some of the original 8 specific purposes have been reworded.
- Specific purpose 9, "advising on transportation safety and accessibility for persons with disabilities" added to reflect an important new concern of the PBT Committee.